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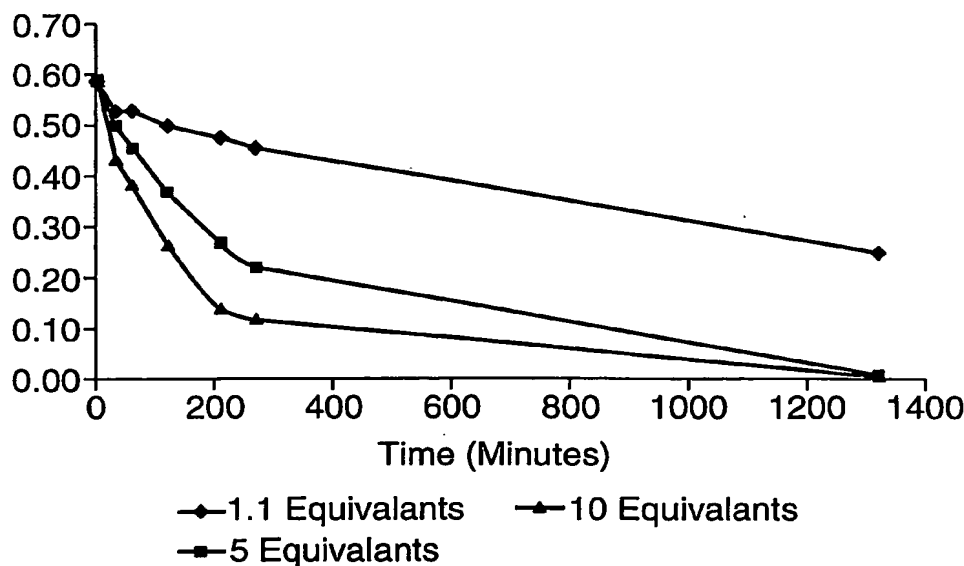
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(54) Title: **MEDICINAL COMPOSITIONS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF**



(57) Abstract: Methods for the manufacture of medicinal compositions are described. A method for the manufacture of a medicinal composition according to the invention comprises: (a) Providing a biocompatible polymer of the general formula $[-O-R^1-C(O)]_n$, wherein: "R¹" is a linear, branched, or cyclic organic group, "n" is at least three, (b) Acylating the biocompatible polymer to provide an acylated biocompatible polymer and a mixed anhydride; (c) Reacting the mixed anhydride with a nucleophile to provide an acylated biocompatible polymer with a terminal carboxylic acid derivative capable of being chemically converted to an acid in the absence of water; (d) Converting the terminal carboxylic acid derivative to an acylated biocompatible polymer with a terminal carboxylic acid; and (e) Combining the acylated biocompatible polymer with a drug to provide the medicinal composition.

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